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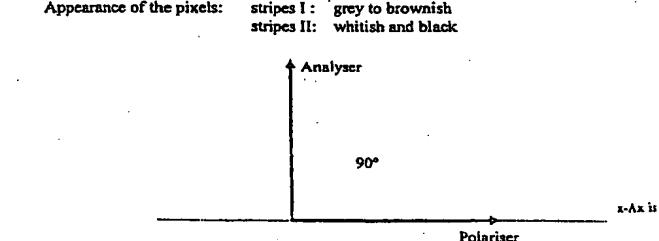
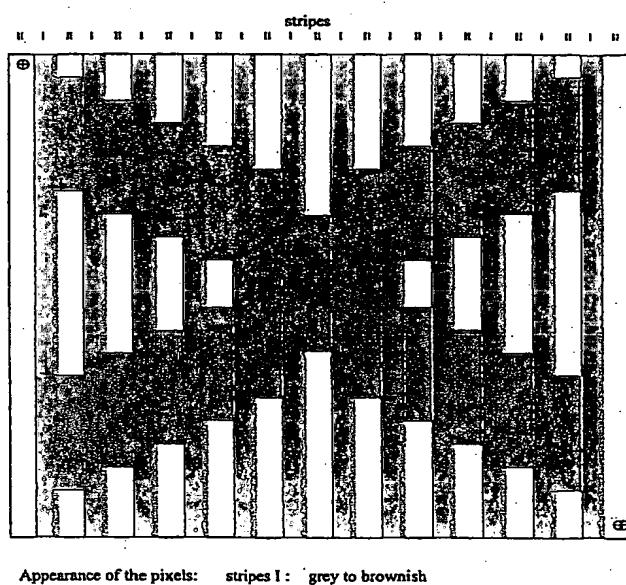
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(54) Title: OPTICAL COMPONENT

(57) Abstract

An optical component contains two or more hidden images for authentication and antiforgery purposes. The images are successively revealed and concealed when the optical component is held between two polarisers and one of them is rotated. The optical component comprises one or more optical retarder(s) in which the images are embedded in separate adjacent stripes or areas, each image being associated with a different mode of interaction with polarised light. Instead of two polarisers, one will suffice if the component is mounted on a reflector.

Magnified version of an optical component (picture II)



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